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Despite the care of the author to the contrary, the shorter work seems to have too much the character of a summary or an abstract; it strikes one as over-condensed, over-abstract, and over-difficult; the practical applications of the doctrinal discussions to the concrete and everyday life of affairs are insufficiently emphasized. Nor for the purposes of an introductory text are the different topics presented in right perspective; that is to say, the distribution of space and emphasis will hardly strike the instructor as fortunate. Where, by the very necessities of the case, few things or none can be thoroughly done, while many fail of being done at all, there is small occasion to devote three pages of discussion to the six rules to be observed in formulating definitions of terms; three other pages to the concept of sovereignty and the ethical problems underlying private property; six pages to the institutions of inheritance and bequest; eight more to the nature of landownership and the right of expropriation; sixteen other pages to what may be described as the political science or sociology of socialism, as distinguished from the economics. On the other hand, the book is clearly and attractively written and in admirable temper; in the main, it is in scope and extent and subject-matter what one should reasonably ask of a text; and, for better or for worse, it contains none of the devices and adaptations which should perhaps in strictness differentiate the text from the treatise, but which commonly, even to the instructor, impress upon a book an unattractive, if not a forbidding, aspect.

H. J. DAVENPORT.

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*Perchè l'Italia è povera e come può diventare ricca.* By CARLO MARIN. Verona: Fratelli Drucker, 1903. 8vo, pp. 320.

THE author—a physician and for some years a resident of the Argentine Republic—reflecting upon the inferiority of the Italian emigrant to the emigrants from other lands, was led to undertake the inquiry, of which this book is the fruit. According to Dr. Marin, the inferiority of the Italian is by no means innate, but is the result of his extreme poverty. There is hope for the ultimate improvement of his condition, since the poverty of Italy is not the inevitable consequence of its lack of coal and other important resources, but is due to the failure to develop its latent wealth through scientific agriculture and the conversion of water power into electricity. The fundamental cause of the poverty of Italy, according to Dr. Marin, is the faulty

system of education. Numerous but poorly equipped universities train great numbers of doctors and of lawyers, who cannot find employment and form an intellectual proletariat. On the other hand, the few schools of agriculture, industry, and commerce are scantily attended, and the instruction lacks a practical character. Reduce the number of universities, improve their scientific equipment, and introduce into every university thoroughly practical instruction in agriculture, industry, and commerce; work directly for economic development and social improvement will follow. In brief, do as Germany has done — this is the recurring refrain.

The book presents a practical program; it is not a contribution to scholarship. It contains some argument, statistics collected from a variety of sources, frequent rhetorical appeals, and much wearisome iteration.

FRANCES G. DAVENPORT.

VASSAR COLLEGE.

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*L'Assicurazione contro la Disoccupazione.* By MATTEO MATTEOTTI. Turin: Fratelli Bocca, 1901. 8vo, pp. vii + 276.

UNDER present industrial conditions the risk of unemployment would appear to be one that is hardly susceptible of a sufficiently definite mathematical or statistical determination to admit of insurance. Certainly it would seem to be the least insurable of industrial risks, and it has not yet been successfully brought under any comprehensive scheme of workingmen's insurance. The demand for it has nevertheless been pretty constant and pressing, and has in certain communities become an issue in practical politics; at least one municipality — canton St. Gall in Switzerland — has instituted a system of compulsory insurance against unemployment. Although the experiment did not prove entirely successful, similar projects have been set on foot in other communities, as, for example, in Basle and Zurich, and are being agitated in France, while in Germany the People's Party favors the inclusion of this risk under some scheme of compulsory government insurance. Professor Matteo Matteotti has made a careful study of these experiments and projected schemes, and his account of them is decidedly enlightening. The laws and projected legislative enactments providing for voluntary government insurance in various communities are also discussed by him at